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ful madness, still she sighs when she thinks of them, and even takes pleasure in bemoaning her past sufferings."

This work may be read with profit by those who desire to become intimately acquainted with the brave men whose names stand out boldly in the history of the Western World. The volume is well printed, and since all the pages passed through the hands of Mr. W. D. Le Sueur and Mr. George Iles, the reader need not expect to find any grave errors.

A. G. DOUGHTY.

The Cambridge Press, 1638-1692: a History of the First Printing Press established in English America, together with a Bibliographical List of the Issues of the Press. By ROBERT F. RODEN. [Famous Presses.] (New York: Dodd, Mead, and Company. 1905. Pp. 193.)

THIS volume is the second in a series on "Famous Presses." The author assures us that he has "endeavored in this work to deal historically and bibliographically with the history of the first printing press established in English North America." It is but fair to say that his endeavor has met with practical success. While the substance of the volume is dependent upon the work of others to whom from time to time reference is made, the method of presentation dispenses with footnotes. The general reader, if any such can be found for a work which appeals only to a limited circle of bibliophiles, might therefore attribute to the author more credit than he actually deserves, a conclusion which would have been avoided had his pages been fortified with references. This is, however, of little consequence, since the subject appeals only to readers who will fully appreciate this. It by no means detracts from the value of the book that the field has been thoroughly worked by others of whose labor the author has wisely taken advantage. Following the footsteps of Isaiah Thomas and Samuel Foster Haven, the writer who dedicates his work to that astute bibliographer Wilberforce Eames and acknowledges his indebtedness to monographs of that patient worker and acknowledged authority Dr. Samuel A. Green is not likely to go far astray.

The treatment of the subject comprehends a list of the publications of the Cambridge Press; sketches of the several printers whose names are connected with its history; and matters of interest connected with the rare volumes published at this early date, the history being given in many instances of their transmission from purchaser to purchaser, and of the constant appreciation of the market value of these much-sought-after treasures. This method of treatment brings the reader in contact with many collectors of Americana during the last century whose names are as familiar as household words to librarians and students. Here we meet George Brinley, James Hammond Trumbull, John Carter Brown, James Lenox, and the bustling, eager, enthusiastic Henry Stevens, the mention of whose name ever brings before us his many peculiarities and

the wonderful instinct which led him to secure for American collectors so many of the rare specimens of early American publications.

The reader will enjoy the appreciative way in which these gentlemen and many others with kindred tastes are mentioned, but he will not fail to notice the offensive tone (pp. 27-28) in which judgment is pronounced against three Boston gentlemen who secured by exchange many years ago three of the five "Bay Psalm Books" then on the shelves of the Prince Library. Those who sympathize with the views of the author may perhaps justify him in thus pillorying these names for all time, but there are many persons who prefer to accept contemporary statements that the entire transaction was reasonable and proper. The same readiness to adopt a conclusion is found in the announcement that the name of the original owner of the press was "Joseph" Glover. Students have been much perplexed, heretofore, to determine whether Josse, the name by which he was generally described, was baptismal or a nickname, and if the latter, which of the several names it might represent was the baptismal name of Glover. If he has any new evidence, he does not say so.

The reference to the books of the Cambridge Press as "American incunabula", "incunabula of the Anglo-American Press", "New England incunabula", or even as "native incunabula" might be defended, but those who sympathize with the lexicographers in their efforts to put a time limit on the word incunabula when applied to books will question whether the Bay Psalm Book can be "regarded as one of the most valuable examples of the world's incunabula" (p. 15).

The act "Ffor the prventinge of Irregularities and abuse to the Authoritie of the Country by the printinge presse" as quoted by the author (p. 110) differs from the text of the same act in the *Massachusetts Bay Records*, IV., part II., p. 141. The source of authority is not indicated.

The book has a meagre index, but on the whole is a satisfactory piece of work, the only serious blemish being the unnecessary attack on the Boston collectors which has already been referred to.

ANDREW MCFARLAND DAVIS.

The American Nation: a History. Edited by ALBERT BUSHNELL HART. Volume 8. *Preliminaries of the Revolution, 1763-1775.* By GEORGE ELLIOTT HOWARD, Professor of Institutional History in the University of Nebraska. Volume 9. *The American Revolution, 1776-1783.* By CLAUDE HALSTEAD VAN TYNE, Assistant Professor of American History, University of Michigan. (New York and London: Harper and Brothers. 1905. Pp. xviii, 359; xix, 369.)

THESE volumes cover the two decades between the peace of Paris of 1763 and the treaty of 1783. That upon the *Preliminaries of the Revolution* is an essential introduction to the following volume, and their